

~~(1) The Department shall provide for the issuance of public notice of the opportunity to submit written comments and to request a hearing.~~

(I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, UPON RECEIPT OF A COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT OR PERMIT REVISION THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS AND TO REQUEST A HEARING.

(II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE THE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIRED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK FOR 2 SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY OF THE PROPOSED MINING OPERATION.

(III) THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO ISSUE THE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIRED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH FOR AN APPLICATION FOR PERMIT REVISION THAT DOES NOT PROPOSE SIGNIFICANT ALTERATIONS IN A PERMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S REGULATIONS.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS OR PERMIT REVISIONS TO ANY INTERESTED PERSON WHO REQUESTS WRITTEN NOTICE.

~~+~~(2) (3) IF A HEARING IS REQUESTED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE APPLICANT AND ANY PERSON WHO REQUESTS THE HEARING OF THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING AND SHALL PUBLISH THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE AREA OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION. THE DEPARTMENT and the Committee shall hold a joint public hearing on the application. A record of the hearing shall be made and shall be available to the public.

[(2) The] ~~+~~(3) (4) ANY joint hearing shall be at least 30 15 but not more than 60 days after the Department provides public notice of the hearing. [Notice shall appear in a newspaper of general circulation in the jurisdiction affected.] Members of the public shall be provided an opportunity to comment on the application [either orally or] in writing until [at least 30 days after public notice of the] THE DATE OF ANY hearing and copies of the application shall be available for public inspection at the Department 30 15 days before [the] ANY hearing.

[(3) After the hearing, the] ~~+~~(4) (5) THE Committee shall approve, reject, or modify the proposed plan. IF A HEARING IS REQUESTED, THE COMMITTEE SHALL APPROVE, REJECT, OR MODIFY THE PROPOSED PLAN AFTER THE HEARING. If the plan is rejected or modified, the operator shall be notified in writing of the reason for rejection or the suggested modification. The operator may resubmit the plan to the Department with the Committee's requested corrections or modifications. If the changes are made and the permit application fully complies with all provisions of